

Abstract of the Disclosure

A discourse structure for an input text segment is determined by generating a set of one or more discourse parsing decision rules based on a training set, and determining a discourse structure for the input text segment by applying the generated set of discourse parsing decision rules to the input text segment. A tree structure is summarized by generating a set of one or more summarization decision rules based on a training set, and compressing the tree structure by applying the generated set of summarization decision rules to the tree structure. Alternatively, summarization is accomplished by parsing an input text segment to generate a parse tree for the input segment, generating a plurality of potential solutions, applying a statistical model to determine a probability of correctness for each of potential solution, and extracting one or more high-probability solutions based on the solutions' respective determined probabilities of correctness.